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Acting Chief, Strategic Control Support Branch

2 July 1956

THRU : Chief, Coordination  
THRU : Chief, Economic Research Area  
Chief, Chemicals Branch, D/M/RR

Request for Information on the Supply Position and Use Patterns of  
Anti-Biotics and Sulfonamides in the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

1. Confirming our conference with [REDACTED] on 26 June 1956, we carefully reviewed with him the requirements stated in the memorandum of 22 June 1956 and reached an agreement on the data that can be supplied.

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2. [REDACTED] agreed the information required in paragraph 3 is far beyond the ability of the Branch to supply in the time available to meet the Commerce deadline. Also, the Branch would not have the time available to schedule a complete up-dating of PR-80, "The Anti-Biotics Industry in the Soviet Bloc."

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3. [REDACTED] stated that it would be satisfactory to submit at the earliest moment a report on the anti-biotic situation based upon all-source information available to the Branch at the present time. He stated that they would like a written interpretation of the situation in each of the Satellite countries.

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4. We advised [REDACTED] that we could not start work on this request until the middle of July, with delivery to him by the middle of August. We estimated that it would take approximately 100 hours of research work. The Division Office concurred with a limitation of 80 hours on the estimated time.

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THROUGH: Chief, Economic Research Area  
Acting Chief, D/E  
Acting Chief, C  
Acting Chief, E/C

22 June 1956

Request for Information on the Supply Position and Use Patterns of  
Anti-Biotics and Sulfonamides in the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

REFERENCE: Memorandum from Wilson E. Sweeney, SCD/OES, BFC, to [REDACTED] CIA, 25X1A9a  
"Antibiotics and Sulfonamides", 21 May 1956, Confidential  
(FC-1250-HB)

1. The CIA representative on the ACEP Operating Committee has been requested in referenced memorandum to provide intelligence on the present supply position and use patterns of anti-biotics and sulfonamides in the Sino-Soviet Bloc. This information is required for the reassessment of the US licensing policy for these commodities in the light of the change in the orientation of over-all US policy favoring freer trade with the Soviet Bloc in non-strategic goods and in order possibly to align US regulations with current COCOM practice. Although not on the US Positive List, anti-biotics are now denied to the Bloc pursuant to a special Program Determination of the Secretary of Commerce. The US does not prohibit the shipment of anti-biotics to any other part of the world. All COCOM countries other than the US do not deny anti-biotics to the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

2. In responses to previous requests for data in this field, the CIA representative on the Operating Committee has made use of CIA/RR PR-80, The Anti-Biotics Industry in the Soviet Bloc, 15 November 1954, and of various data supplied on a "spot" basis from time to time by M/Ch. It is felt, however, that this basic information is now dated and no longer provides a realistic picture of the Bloc anti-biotics situation. It is requested, therefore, that M/Ch be asked to bring up to date the information in CIA/RR PR-80 and to include in that revision if possible, information on consumption and use patterns of these medicinals in the Sino-Soviet Bloc. If current FRA work-loads do not permit the mounting of a formal revision of the aforementioned report, an interim memorandum furnishing new working estimates and meaningful recent illustrations would be helpful.


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3. Specific points to be covered in the requested revision are as follows:

- a) Total Sino-Soviet Bloc production of anti-biotics and sulfonamides by type and by country;
- b) Estimate of adequacy of indigenous production in terms of Sino-Soviet Bloc consumption (in terms such as dosages per person, or some other accepted measure);
- c) Quality of drugs and medicinals produced;
- d) Future production plans;
- e) Civilian and military use patterns (comment on restrictions on civilian consumption, if any); and
- f) Trade in anti-biotics with the free world.

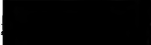
4. The Medical Division of OSI has been consulted on this request and has agreed to review the FRA production for possible additional contributions.

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